

Review of the Genus *Cirrhicera* Thomson

(Coleoptera: Cerambycidae)

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The hemilophine genus *Cirrhicera* Thomson is comprised of a number of rather pretty, moderate-sized species occurring from about central Mexico to Panama. Thomson (1857) included three Mexican species (one erroneously cited as "Patrie: Venezuela") and another in 1860 from the same country. Bates (1881) added four species from Mexico and Guatemala and one from Panama (1885). The remaining two known species were described from Mexico by Gahan (1892).

Specimens of *Cirrhicera* are rather rare in collections and there are at hand only 92 specimens representing eight species. The types or determined material of all of the unrepresented species have been examined at the British Museum (Natural History).

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Genus CIRRHICERA Thomson

Cirrhicera Thomson, 1857, Arch. entomol. 1: 309; Thomson, 1860, Class. de cérambycides, p. 63; Thomson, 1864, Systema cerambycidarum, p. 128; Lacordaire, 1872, Genera des coléoptères, 9(2): 892; Bates, 1881, Biologia Centrali-Americana, Coleoptera, 5: 213.

This genus is characterized by the tufts of black hairs on the fifth and sixth antennal segments. The third antennal segment is longer than the first and the fourth shorter than the third but longer than the first. The distal segments are short. The eyes are finely faceted and almost separated, the two lobes connected by a single row of facets. The pronotum is cylindrical, transverse and not laterally produced. The

prosternal process is narrow, arcuate and expanded apically. The elytra have strong costae extending from the humeri making the epipleurae almost vertical. The legs are slender, tibiae lacking a sinus, and the tarsal claws are bifid.

TYPE SPECIES.—*Hemilophus leuconotus* Laporte (Thomson designation, 1864).

Eleven species are presently known.

KEY TO SPECIES OF CIRRHICERA

1. Elytra without pale pubescent spots, pale pubescent patches either covering most of surface, transverse, or absent 2
Elytra with pale, pubescent spots usually at base and behind middle ... 5
- 2(1). Elytra with pubescent fasciae covering most of surface or basally and medially transverse 3
Elytra uniformly densely pubescent with black spots at middle and at apical one-third; pronotum densely grayish pubescent except for narrow, median, longitudinal line. Length, 9–13 mm. Mexico to El Salvador *cinereola* Bates
- 3(2). Elytra with pubescent fasciae extending over most of surface; pronotum with lateral pubescence same color as that of elytra 4
Elytra black with broad yellow pubescent bands transverse, one basal, one post-median; pronotum orange pubescent laterally. Length, 15–16 mm. Mexico *conspicua* Gahan
- 4(3). Abdomen with last sternite emarginate at apex; antennae usually dark. Length, 9–17 mm. Mexico *leuconota* (Laporte)
Abdomen with last sternite rounded at apex; antennae testaceous. Length, 10–12 mm. Costa Rica to Panama *panamensis* Bates
- 5(1). Elytra without two elevated tubercles at base 6
Elytra with two strongly elevated tubercles at base; antennae with scape densely fringed with long pubescence beneath. Length, 8.5 mm Mexico and Guatemala *crispipennis* Bates
- 6(5). Elytra with two pairs of pubescent spots, one basal and one post-median .. 7
Elytra with two pubescent spots behind the middle only; color black. Length, 9 mm. Mexico *nigrina* Thomson
- 7(6). Elytra with basal pubescent spots sutural, lying behind scutellum 8
Elytra with basal pubescent spots well separated, lying on basal margin. Length, 8–12 mm. Nayarit to Veracruz, Mexico *basalis* Gahan
- 8(7). Elytra with pubescent spots not circled with black 9
Elytra with pubescent spots circled with black, apices deeply emarginate, margins acute. Length, 7–11 mm. Southern Mexico and Guatemala ...
..... *championi* Bates
- 9(8). Pubescent spots yellow; long erect hairs absent or sparse on pronotum and elytra 10
Pubescent spots white; long erect hairs numerous on pronotum and elytra. Length, 7.5 mm. Veracruz, Mexico *niveosignata* Thomson
- 10(9). Abdomen without pubescent spots; antennae with basal segments dark,

fifth and sixth segments black. Length, 10–11 mm. Guatemala
 *longifrons* Bates
 Abdomen with yellow pubescent spots; antennae pale throughout, seg-
 ments five and six brownish. Length, 6.5–13 mm. Mexico to Panama ..
 *sallei* Thomson

CIRRHICERA CINEREOLA Bates

(Fig. 1)

Cirrhicera cinereola Bates, 1881, 5: 215.

The body entirely clothed with grayish to ochraceous appressed pubescence. The elytra have four dark spots at the apical one-half.

TYPE LOCALITY.—Guatemala, near the city.

ADDITIONAL RECORDS.—1 ♂, 1 ♀, Chiapas, Mexico, Pacific slope Cordellerus, 800–1,000 M (L. Hotzen '19); 1 ♂, San Jeronimo, Volcan Tacana, Chiapas, Mexico, 9 September 1970 (E. C. Welling); 1 ♂, Mexico (F. C. Bowditch); 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Antigua, Guatemala, October 1965 (N. L. H. Krauss); 1 ♂, Chicacoa Such., Guatemala, 2,000 ft., 22 June 1965 (J. M. Campbell); 1 ♂, Ahuachapan, El Salvador, 18 August 1960.

CIRRHICERA CONSPICUA Gahan

(Fig. 2)

Cirrhicera conspicua Gahan, 1892, 1892: 269, pl. 12, fig. 13.

This species is very distinctive by the orangish lateral bands of the pronotum and by the yellow transverse bands of the elytra, one basal and one post-median.

TYPE LOCALITY.—Guerrero, Mexico.

Known only from the type series (male, female).

CIRRHICERA LEUCONOTA (Laporte)

(Fig. 3)

Hemilophus leuconotus Laporte, 1840, 2: 489.

Cirrhicera leucronota, Thomson, 1857, 1: 309.

Cirrhicera leuconota, Thomson, 1860, p. 64; Thomson, 1864, p. 128; Bates, 1881, 5: 213.

Ground color brown to dark brown with the elytra extensively clothed by pale pubescence. The median dark band of the pronotum is broad and the antennae dark. The abdomen has the last sternite emarginate apically in both sexes. The extent of the pale patch of the elytra is somewhat variable and usually emarginate toward the suture at the middle.

TYPE LOCALITY.—Mexico.

MATERIAL EXAMINED.—Mexico: 4 ♂ ♂, 1 ♀, Orizaba, Veracruz, 12–22 August 1961 (R. & K. Dreisbach); 4 ♂ ♂, Fortin de las Flores, Veracruz, 10 June 1959 (H. E. Evans), 6 July 1963 (W. A. Foster); 6 ♀ ♀, Cordoba, Veracruz, 8 July

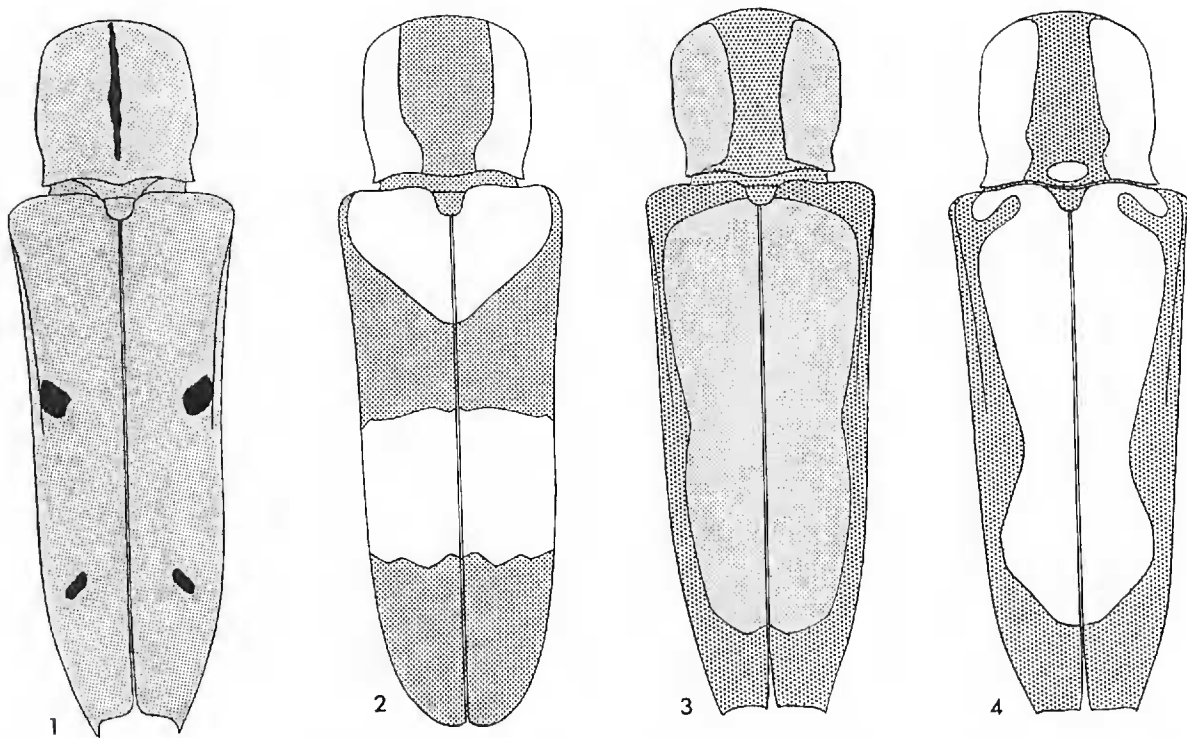


FIG. 1. *Cirrhicera cinereola* Bates. FIG. 2. *C. conspicua* Gahan. FIG. 3. *C. leuconota* (Laporte). FIG. 4. *C. panamensis* Bates.

1961 (D. H. Janzen), 8 October 1941 (DeLong, Good, Caldwell & Plummer), 23 July 1936 (C. H. Seevers); 1 ♀, El Fortin, Veracruz, 8 July 1941 (H. S. Dybas); 1 ♀, 2 miles NE San Andreas Tuxtla, Lago Encantada, 460 M, Veracruz (B. & B. Valentine); 1 ♂, 5 miles W Orizaba, Veracruz, 7 July 1962 (J. M. Campbell); 1 ♀, Mexico (Deyer); 1 ♀, Temescal, Oaxaca, 11, 12 September 1964.

CIRRHICERA PANAMENSIS Bates

(Fig. 4)

Cirrhicera sallaei var. *panamensis* Bates, 1885, 5: 429; Chemsak and Linsley, 1970, 43: 409 (lectotype design.).

In coloration this species is quite similar to *C. leuconota*. In addition to the pale antennae, *C. panamensis* also has the apex of the last abdominal sternite rounded.

TYPE LOCALITY.—Volcan de Chiriqui, Panama.

MATERIAL EXAMINED.—1 ♂, 6 Km S San Vito, Puntarenas, Costa Rica, 2 May 1967 (D. F. Viers).

CIRRHICERA CRISTIPENNIS Bates

(Fig. 5)

Cirrhicera cristipennis Bates, 1881, 5: 214.

This species is easily recognizable by the two prominent tubercles near the base of the elytra and the highly elevated pronotal disk. The antennae are densely fringed on the scape and segments three and four also have

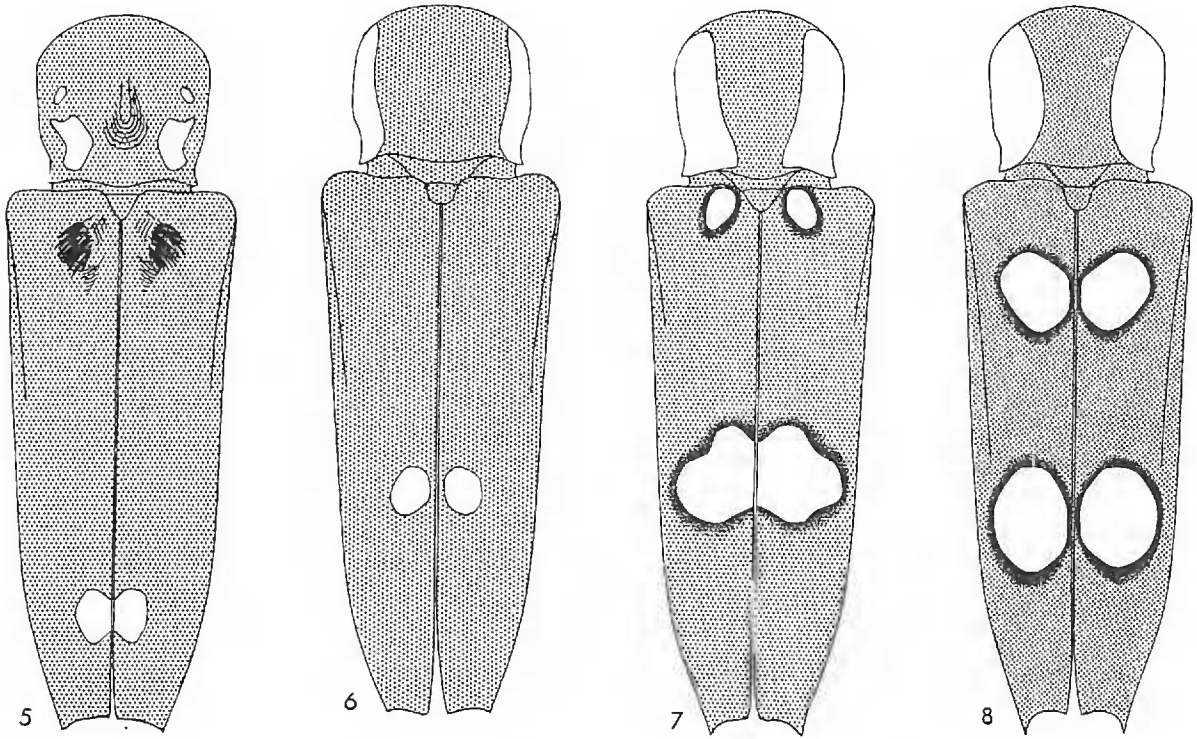


FIG. 5. *C. cristipennis* Bates. FIG. 6. *C. nigrina* Thomson. FIG. 7. *C. basalis* Gahan. FIG. 8. *C. championi* Bates.

a small fringe. The elytra are finely clothed by very short pubescence having a lavender cast.

TYPE LOCALITY.—Mexico.

MATERIAL EXAMINED.—1 ♂, Orizaba, Veracruz, Mexico, 12–22 August, 1961 (R. & K. Dreisbach); 1 ♂, Morales, Guatemala, 8 March 1905.

CIRRHICERA NIGRINA Thomson

(Fig. 6)

Cirrhicera nigrina Thomson, 1857, 1: 310; Bates, 1881, 5: 214.

The characterization of this species is based on a specimen determined by Bates in the Sallé Collection. The ground color is black with two rounded pale spots a little behind the middle of the elytra.

TYPE LOCALITY.—Mexico (erroneously cited as Venezuela by Thomson).

CIRRHICERA BASALIS Gahan

(Fig. 7)

Cirrhicera basalis Gahan, 1892, 1892: 269, pl. 12, fig. 5.

The color is pale to dark brown with the pubescent patches of the pronotum and elytra white. The median dark area of the pronotum is broad apically, converging toward the base. The basal white patches

are placed on each side of the scutellum while the post-median pair is sutural and usually posteriorly oblique.

The two separated basal spots will separate this species from *C. sallei*.

TYPE LOCALITY.—Guerrero, Mexico.

MATERIAL EXAMINED.—Mexico: 1 ♀, 6 miles E San Blas, Nayarit, 27 August 1959 (A. S. Menke, L. A. Stange); 1 ♂, San Blas, 7 August 1964 (W. R. M. Mason); 1 ♀, 18 miles N Tepic, Nayarit, 16 August 1960 (D. C. Rentz); 1 ♂, Tepic, 13 September 1951 (R. & K. Dreisbach); 1 ♂, 4 miles W Tepic, 31 August 1961; 1 ♀, Barra de Navidad, Jalisco, September 1965 (N. L. H. Krauss); 1 ♀, Km 108 on Hwy 110 to Manzanillo, Jalisco, 20 July 1956 (R. E. Beer and party); 1 ♂, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, 6 July 1957 (J. A. Comstock); 2 ♂ ♂, Acapulco, Guerrero, 1 August 1934 (C. C. Plummer), 4 October 1945; 1 ♂, Temascaltepec, D. F., 1931 (G. B. Hinton); 1 ♂, Cordoba, Veracruz, 4 August 1965 (A. B. Lau).

CIRRHICERA CHAMPIONI Bates

(Fig. 8)

Cirrhicera championi Bates, 1881, 5: 214, pl. 15, fig. 12; Chemsak and Linsley, 1970, 43: 409 (lectotype design.).

Very similar to *C. sallei* but having the yellowish elytral spots separated but contiguous and outlined in black or dark brown. The appendages are pale except for segments one, five and six of the antennae.

TYPE LOCALITY.—Zapote, Guatemala.

MATERIAL EXAMINED.—4 ♂ ♂, San Jeronimo, Volcan Tacana, Chiapas, Mexico, 12, 21 August 1970, 2 September 1970, 10 October 1970 (E. C. Welling); 1 ♀, Moca, Such., Guatemala, 3,000 ft., 16 July 1959 (P. & C. Vaurie); 1 ♀, 15 Km S La Reforma, S. M., Guatemala, 3 September 1965 (J. M. Campbell); 1 ♀, 1 Km N Yecocapa, Chi., Guatemala, 1,500 M, 29 May 1966 (Campbell); 1 ♂, 4 Km N Palin, Esc., Guatemala, 4,500 ft., 21 June 1966 (Campbell); 1 ♀, Finca Moca, Santa Barbara, Such., Guatemala, 3,000 ft., 12 June 1966 (Campbell).

CIRRHICERA NIVEOSIGNATA Thomson

(Fig. 9)

Cirrhicera niveosignata Thomson, 1860, p. 64; Bates, 1881, 5: 214.

This species may be recognized by the small white, almost scale-like pubescent patches. The basal pair is separated and behind the scutellum and the post-median pair is contiguous at the suture. The body is moderately clothed with long erect hairs and the short appressed pubescence is relatively sparse.

TYPE LOCALITY.—Mexico.

MATERIAL EXAMINED.—1 ♀, Tezonapa, Veracruz, Mexico, 8 August 1941 (H. S. Dybas).

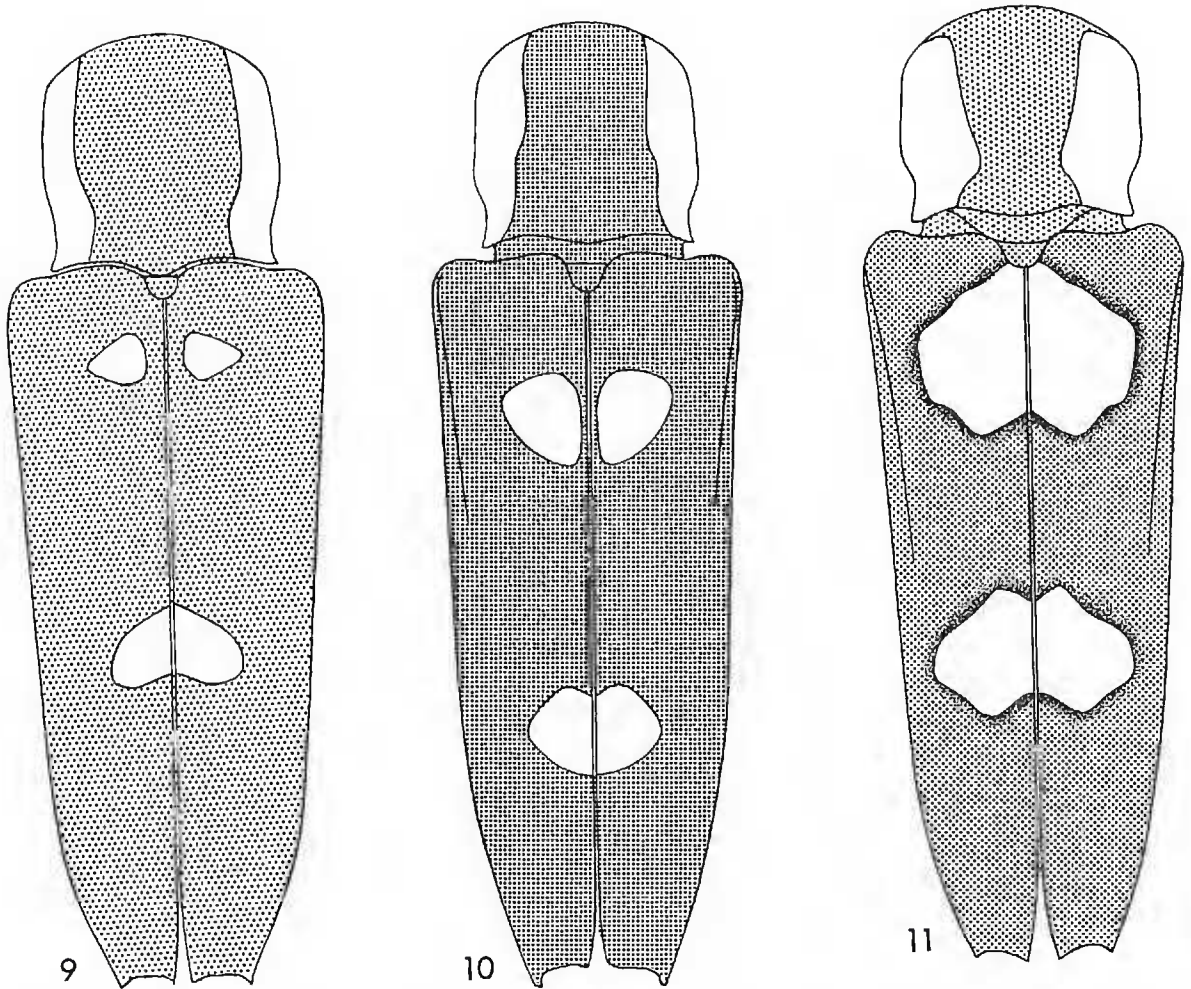


FIG. 9. *C. niveosignata* Thomson. FIG. 10. *C. longifrons* Bates. FIG. 11. *C. sallei* Thomson.

CIRRHICERA LONGIFRONS Bates

(Fig. 10)

Cirrhicera longifrons Bates, 1881, 5: 214; Chemsak and Linsley, 1970, 43: 409 (lectotype design.).

This species is known only from the originally described male and female. It greatly resembles *C. sallei* but the two apparently differ by the lack of pubescent patches on the abdomen and dark basal antennal segments of *C. longifrons*. These two species may ultimately prove to be the same.

TYPE LOCALITY.—Purulá, Guatemala.

CIRRHICERA SALLEI Thomson

(Fig. 11)

Cirrhicera sallei Thomson, 1857, 1: 310.

Cirrhicera sallaei, Bates, 1872, 1872: 231; Bates, 1881, 5: 214.

This appears to be the most common and widespread species of *Cirrhicera*. The subbasal yellowish patches are irregular and contiguous

at the suture. The postmedian pair are variable in size and shape but also meet at the suture.

TYPE LOCALITY.—Mexico.

MATERIAL EXAMINED.—Mexico: 1 ♂, Cotaxtla, Veracruz, 26 August 1959 (R. F. Smith); 1 ♂, Fortin de las Flores, Veracruz, 6 August 1963 (W. A. Foster); 1 ♂, Cordoba, Veracruz (A. Fenyés); 1 ♂, Coyame, Lake Catemaco, Veracruz, 10–18 July 1963 (D. R. Whitehead); 1 ♀, Comoapan Falls, Veracruz, 14 July 1963 (Whitehead); 1 ♂, Teapa, Tabasco, 11 July 1964 (E. Fisher); 1 ♀, X-can, Quintana, Roo, 27 July 1967 (E. C. Welling); 1 ♀, 72 miles E La Ventosa, Oaxaca, 21 July 1963 (J. T. Doyen); 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Cuernavaca, Morelos, July 1945 (N. L. H. Krauss). Guatemala: 1 ♂, Matias de Galvez, 14–15 August 1965 (P. J. Spangler); 1 ♂, Dept. El Progreso, Virgen, 11–12 August 1965 (Flint and Ortiz). British Honduras: 1 ♀, Belize (Peck); 1 ♀, Augustine Mt., Pine Ridge, 3–7 July 1963 (C. C. Porter); 2 ♂ ♂, M-tee District, 12 June 1906. El Salvador: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 6 miles W Quezaltepeque, 12 August 1963 (D. Q. Cavagnaro, M. E. Irwin); 1 ♀, San Salvador, 19 September 1960; 1 ♀, La Libertad, November 1959 (Krauss); 1 ♀, Metepan, 5 August 1954. Honduras: 1 ♀, Zamorano, September 1953 (N. L. H. Krauss). Costa Rica: 1 ♀, 4 Km N Canas, Guanacasta, 15 July 1965 (D. Viers); 1 ♀, Boca de Barranca, Puntarenas, 19 June 1963 (C. L. Hogue); 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Piedras Negras; 2 ♂ ♂, 1 ♀, Turrialba, 21, 29 May 1951 (O. L. Cartwright), 28 May 1962 (H. Ruckes); 1 ♂, Barranca, Puntarenas, 24 July 1929 (F. Nevermann); 1 ♀, Hamburgfarm, Reventazon, 25 March 1935 (Nevermann); 1 ♀, Costa Rica. Panama: 2 ♂ ♂, Sumit, Canal Zone, June, July 1953 (Krauss); 1 ♀, Porto Bello, 18 February 1912 (A. Busck).

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